



FAA Production Studio News

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FAA Production Studio Staff

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Safety Center Landscape Project

By Billy & Adair Henderson, FAA Production Studio Staff, Landscape Project Co-Chairs

What began in July about the "less than appealing look" of the Safety Center has resulted in a major project to landscape the entire facility. Inspired by the dedication of the volunteers of the Production Studio crew, Adair and Billy Henderson agreed to lead the effort. Obie Young and those present provided their input.

The ideas were incorporated into a preliminary site plan and included some needed pavement. The plan then was reviewed by retired professional landscape architect, Professor Tom Mack. He submitted some suggestions and his ideas joined the plan. Professor Mack is retired from Florida Southern College. He has assisted with many city and Sun 'n Fun projects.

We also met with Mr. Charles Gunter, Director of Aviation of Lakeland Linder Regional Airport. Mr. Gunter indicated that he would assist us by supplying some palm trees. We then visited with Buddy Fletcher, Mayor of Lakeland and asked if the city could help. He indicated a desire to assist. Following our visit, we received information from the city and the airport management stating that they will help.

The process began with Adair and I forming up the paving sites. The FASF agreed to fund the cement work. While awaiting word on the delivery of trees, our volunteers began mowing, edging, weed pulling

and placing a few donated plants.

The planting of any major shrubs would be delayed until the trees were in place. By late July, The City of Lakeland confirmed that they were going to help.

While we continued to clear and prepare the grounds, we ordered estimates for a sprinkler system. We will be installing conduit for wiring and speakers also. On September the 15th we received word the City of Lakeland had approved a plan for the site.

On October 5th the Department of Parks and Recreation had planted eighteen large fan palms and a substantial number of beautiful shrubs. The flower beds have been mulched. The primary work required seven days. Additionally they plan to water the plants every day for thirty days.

We wish to recognize the efforts of Charles Gunter, Director of Lakeland Airport and Lloyd Tillman, Assistant Director for their help. We greatly appreciate the help and support of the City of Lakeland and the Department of Parks and Recreation.

We are grateful for their support!



Here are some photos highlighting the Before, During and After of the project.

What a great improvement to the building and property for all of us to enjoy... and there's still more to come!

